

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/919,701

Examiner

Michael P. Nghiem

Applicant(s)

STURGEON ET AL.

Art Unit

2863

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on 27 April 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 17-20 and 26-46.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 June 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 4-15-05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given by Mr. Todd Rathe during a telephone interview on May 10, 2005.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Replace the Abstract with the following:

-- An on-axis ink reservoir that is pivotally secured to the carriage of an inkjet printer thereby defining an engaged position, in which the ink reservoir is in fluid communication with a printhead secured to the carriage, and an open position, in which the ink reservoir pivots away from the printhead to allow easy access to the printhead without the need to remove the ink reservoir from the carriage. Preferably, the ink reservoir is detachably secured to an ink-reservoir mounting portion, the printhead is detachably secured to a printhead mounting-portion, and these two mounting portions are pivotally secured together. More preferably, the ink-reservoir mounting portion includes a plurality of ink reservoirs, and the printhead mounting-portion includes a

Art Unit: 2863

plurality of printheads. A latching mechanism is provided to operably secure the two mounting portions together in the engaged position. [[A resistive detent on one of the mounting portions operably engages a tab extending from the other of the mounting portions when the carriage is in its open position, thereby holding the carriage in its open position to further facilitate remove of the printhead]]. --

Replace claim 42 with the following:

-- 42. (Currently Amended) A carriage for an inkjet printer comprising:

a first mounting portion;

a printhead operably secured to said first mounting portion;

a second mounting portion operably secured to said first mounting portion such that said second mounting portion moves toward and away from said first mounting portion along a defined path;

an ink reservoir operably secured to said second mounting portion in a secured position,

said second mounting portion having an engaged position in which the ink reservoir is in fluid communication with said printhead when said ink reservoir is in said secured position, and an open position in which the second mounting portion is moved away from the first mounting portion along the defined path and said ink reservoir remains in said secured position thereby allowing removal of the printhead from the carriage from above said first mounting portion without detaching said ink reservoir from said secured position on said second mounting portion. --

Reasons For Allowance

3. The combination as claimed wherein removing the first printhead from the cartridge and installing the second printhead in the carriage such that the second printhead is operably secured to the carriage while maintaining the ink reservoir in said secured position (claim 17) or said printhead may be removed from the carriage from above said printhead mounting portion or carriage without removing said ink reservoir from said secured position on said ink reservoir mounting portion (claims 26, 37, 42) is not disclosed, suggested, or made obvious by the prior art of record.

JP 4-010947 discloses an ink cartridge (26) being inserted in a cartridge holder (27). However, the reference does not disclose the removing and installing step as claimed nor that a printhead may be removed from a carriage from above a printhead mounting portion or carriage without removing the ink cartridge from a secured position on an ink reservoir mounting portion.

JP 10-114083 discloses an ink cartridge (2) inserted in a cartridge holder (7) pivoting with respect to a printhead mounting portion (Fig. 4). However, the reference does not disclose the removing and installing step as claimed nor that the printhead (1) may be removed from a carriage from above a printhead mounting portion or carriage (see Fig. 4).

Art Unit: 2863

"X" category references cited in the EP Search Report filed on May 19, 2003, EP 879 703, EP 829 363, EP 1 114 726, EP 860 285, EP 1 122 076, have been considered.

However, none of the references disclose the removing and installing step as claimed or that a printhead may be removed from a carriage from above a printhead mounting portion or carriage.

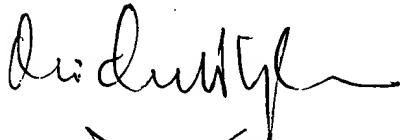
Contact Information

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael P Nghiem whose telephone number is (571) 272-2277. The examiner can normally be reached on M-H.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached on (571) 272-2269. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2863

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



~~PRIMARY EXAMINER~~
~~MICHAEL NGHIEM~~
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Michael Nghiem

May 10, 2005